

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

A Host Record for *Trichoptilus xerodes* Meyr. (Lepidoptera: Pterophoridae).—Many small arthropods are unable to escape adhesion to the glutinous tips of the stems of *Acacia rossei* F. Muell. A species of caterpillar which was able to feed and live successfully on even the stickiest portions of the plant was brought to my attention by Drs. A. R. and B. Y. Main. I reared some of these caterpillars, which were collected by Dr. B. Y. Main and me on December 22, 1963. The final instar and the pupal periods each lasted about a week and the moth emerged on January 8, 1964. It was kindly identified by Mr. I. F. B. Common, Division of Entomology, C.S.I.R.O., Canberra, as *Trichoptilus xerodes* Meyr.

The caterpillars were collected from a single plant of *A. rossei* growing in a garden at Nedlands, W.A. Mr. R. D. Royce, Chief Botanist, State, Herbarium, who identified the plant, states that *A. rossei* grows mainly in patches of sandplain country 4 to 25 miles E. of Southern Cross, W.A. I know of no other recorded food-plant of *T. xerodes*.

L. E. KOCH, W.A. Museum, Perth.

Plumed Tree-Ducks at Meekatharra.—In October 1963, Mr. C. Fisher, of Meekatharra, forwarded to the Fisheries Department for identification a strange duck that had been shot in his district. The bird was taken to the Western Australian Museum and identified as a Plumed Tree-Duck (*Dendrocygna eytoni*). Mr. Fisher said that it had been one of 25 on a section of the Murchison River known as Irridabubba Pool, about 75 miles west of Meekatharra.

This was the first report in many years of the taking of a Tree-Duck in this State south of the Kimberley Land Division where two species of the genus occur. The species taken at Meekatharra is limited to Australia and is generally a northern one but it has been recorded as far south as Carnamah. The second species of Tree-Duck in the north is the Whistling Tree-Duck (*Dendrocygna arcuata*) which is found all over southern Asia and in the Pacific Islands north to the Philippines. Both species occasionally penetrate into southern Australia, more commonly in the eastern States, and wanderers have also been picked up in Tasmania and New Zealand. There are no nesting records in this State south of the Kimberley Land Division.

—H. B. SHUGG, Fisheries Department, Perth.

Mediterranean Snail, *Theba pisana*, at Collie and Other Localities.—V. N. Scrventy's record of the Mediterranean Snail in an inland locality (*W. Aust. Nat.*, 9: 92) prompts me to make a belated report on the species at Collie where it is firmly established in several areas.

In 1957, when I moved to Venn Street, Collie, I found these snails present, though less frequent than *Helix aspersa*. As the